(c) The requisite information in respect of all Regional Passport Offices/Passport Offices is given in the Annexure. [*See Appendix 179, Annexure No. 26]* The Head Office in Delhi, which is the supervisory office, does not receive applications for the issue of ordinary passports.

(d) The majority of the offices issue passports within 45 days of the receipt of applications.

Border Dispute between Maharashtra and Karnataka

1289. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state whether Government propose to invite the Ministers of Maharashtra and Karnataka to resolve their border disput?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR): The Government of India are of the view that this dispute can be resolved with the willing co-operation of the State Governments concerned. The Government of India will be glad to extend all possible assistance to them in this regard.

Modernisation of Indian weapon system

1290. SHRI GYAN RANJAN: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of measures taken to modernise the Indian weapon system;

(b) whether different wings of defence forces have been complaining about the non-availability of sufficient funds to upgrade and modernise and also adequately maintain the weapon; and

(c) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU): (a) to (c) Modernisation of the equipments and weaponry of the Services, is an on going process. While finalising the Acquisition Plan, *inter alia,* the global and regional security environment as well as the technological environment assessment are kept in view. A concerted exercise was undertaken this year, as in previous years, in consultation with the Service headquarters and Integrated Finance division of this Ministry, to determine the modernisation priorities accordingly and to earmark funds from the available defence allocation. There is a well defined system of estimating the defence requirements on the basis of the threat perceptions and contractual, obligatory, regular and recurrent commitments, in consultation with the Services headquarters and Integrated Finance Division. Ministry of Finance, keeping in view the estimates of requirement and the security concerns projected by the Ministry of Defence, available resources and demands from other sectors, decide on the defence allocation.

आरक्षित हथकरघा वस्तुओं की सूची में संशोधन के लिये समिति का गठन किया जाना

1291. **श्री राय जेठमलानी:** क्या वस्त्र मंत्री 20 नवम्बर, 1996 को राज्य सभा में अतारांकित प्रश्न 53 के दिए गए उत्तरों को देखेंगे और यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सभी कपड़ा मिलों, विद्युत-करघा और हथकरघा उद्योग के प्रतिनिधियों की समिति में शामिल किया गया था; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो इस समिति की कुल सदस्य संख्या क्या थी और वे किस-किस क्षेत्र का प्रतिनिधित्व कर रहे थे तथा उनके नाम क्या-क्या हैं और उनके चयन का आधार क्या है?

वस्त्र मंत्री (श्री आर० एल० जालप्पा): (क) जी हां।

(ख) हथकरघा पर अनन्य रूप से उत्पादन करने के लिए मद अथवा मदों की श्रेणी के आरक्षण के संबंध में सरकार को सलाह देने के लिए 30 विशेषज्ञों की एक समिति गठित की गई थी। इस समिति के सदस्य हथकरघा पावरलूम और मिल क्षेत्र का प्रतिनिधित्व करते हैं।